

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE ARIZONA  
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION COUNCIL  
May 5, 2022**

A public meeting of the Arizona Geographic Information Council was convened at 1:02 PM on May 5, 2022, as a Phone in (877-309-3457) and Virtual Webex Meeting (azgov.webex.com, meeting number 2465 075 9608. Present at the meeting were the following members or designees of the Arizona Geographic Information Council:

**AGIC Officers**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Agency/Company</b>	<b>In Attendance</b>
Eric Shreve, Chair	Arizona Dept of Administration – 911 Office	Yes, Virtual
Kevin Blake, Vice Chair	Yavapai County	Yes, Virtual
Shea Lemar, Chair	Arizona State University	Yes, Virtual
Lucas Murray, Treasurer	Arizona Dept of Economic Security	Yes, Virtual
Phillip Leveille, Secretary	Maricopa County Assessor's Office	Yes, Virtual

**AGIC Board Members**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Agency/Organization</b>	<b>In Attendance</b>
Jack Avis	Pima County	Yes, Virtual
Christian Black	United States Air Force	Yes, Virtual
Mark Christiano	United States Forest Service	Yes, Virtual
Jay Corum	United States Bureau of Reclamation	Yes, Virtual
Michael Dennis	NOAA - National Geodetic Survey	Yes, Virtual
Nicole Eiden	Arizona Department of Health Services	Yes, Virtual
Kris Estes	City of Buckeye	No
Eric Feldman	Maricopa County	Yes, Virtual
Mike Hilstrom	Arizona Department of Water Resources	Yes, Virtual
Jason Howard	Maricopa Association of Governments	Yes, Virtual
Julie Jamarta	Pima Association of Governments	Yes, Virtual
Wesley Kortuem	Arizona Department of Health Services	No, With Notice
Keith Larson	USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service	Yes, Virtual
Jenna Leveille	Arizona State Land Department	Yes, Virtual
Christopher Lukinbeal	University of Arizona	No, With Notice
Ryan McClain	Arizona Department of Public Safety	Yes, Virtual
James Meyer	Arizona Department of Transportation	Yes, Virtual
Julie Mikolajczyk	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality	Yes, Virtual
Veronica Nixon	Arizona Department of Water Resources	Yes, Virtual
Phil Ponce	Engineering Mapping Solutions	Yes, Virtual
Dave Roby	AZ Dept of Military and Emergency Affairs	No, With Notice

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<b>Name</b>	<b>Agency/Organization</b>	<b>In Attendance</b>
Leslie Stovall	Gila River Indian Community	Yes, Virtual
Gene Trobia	Arizona State University	No, With Notice
Patrick Whiteford	Arizona Department of Transportation	Yes, Virtual
Steve Whitney	Pima County ITD GIS	Yes, Virtual

**Public at Large**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Agency/Company</b>	<b>In Attendance</b>
Brian Bond	Yavapai County	Yes
James Merrill	US Department of Agriculture	Yes

**I. Call to Order:**

Eric Shreve called the meeting to order at 10:02am. Jenna Leveille took roll call of the council officers and members; attendance was recorded, and Quorum was established. The public was instructed to place their name in the chat if they wish to speak to the board when called upon and / or be listed as public members in attendance.

**II. Approval of Minutes:**

A motion to approve the February 2022 meeting minutes was made by Jenna Leveille and seconded by Kevin Blake. There was no discussion, a vote was held, and the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

**III. Announcements:**

Eric Shreve made announcements. Patrick Whiteford from ADOT and Veronica Nixon from ADWR have been appointed to the AGIC council. Only six vacancies exist on the council currently. Eric also shared about the ESRI User Conference coming up in July; he will not be attending. AGIC is holding a Spring Symposium May 24 – 25 in Prescott, Registration is required. The annual AGIC Education and Training Symposium is August 30 through September 2 in Prescott. The deadline is approaching for submitting abstracts. If necessary, abstracts can be submitted in Draft form to be updated later. Registration is open for the event. The T-shirt design contest closes on the 8<sup>th</sup>, submit to win free registration. The maps and apps contest closes on August 19 this year.

**IV. Budget Update:**

Lucas Murray, AGIC Treasurer, reviewed the budget report provided to the Council prior to the meeting.

**V. Items from the Chair:**

**A. NAIP Update**

James Merrill, the Imagery program manager for the National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP) from the Department of Agriculture presented about the program this year. He demonstrated what the imagery should look like and how some of it ended up. James explained that funding delays, smoke from wildfires and bad

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weather resulted in delayed acquisitions in Arizona. They attempted to collect and produce 35 states this year, the most ever and essentially explained that it overloaded the vendor and the process. Arizona does not have collection scheduled for 2022. He also explained how they changed to a Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) which makes it easier for buyups. Oregon is partnering to fly at 30cm (can buy up to 15cm) and he demonstrated the dramatic difference. Some questions fielded by James were regarding the Arizona schedule and safeguards for the future. Arizona should be on the list for flight every two years, with 2023 being the next time. One safeguard being put in place is a contractual vehicle to turn contracts around in weeks; this helps when funding is late, for example if there are budget delays and continuing resolutions. Another safeguard revolves around holding the vendors accountable for flight windows. Phil Roberts created analysis to support enforcement of those flying seasons. James shared that if the vendors cannot deliver, for example in New York, only 90% was flown, so the remaining portion (in this case 10%) would be captured in future flight. James shared his email with the group: [james.merrill@usda.gov](mailto:james.merrill@usda.gov). Jenna and Keith shared an update about the current data from the most recent release. As of yesterday, Keith received the drive with 2021 NAIP on it, and it will go to Jenna next. As a note, the imagery is not all bad, but there are a lot of shadows in area with high vegetation; on a good note, a lot of the agricultural areas look very good in part because of the lack of trees. Keith suggested buy up as a future agenda item, or separate meeting. Once the drive is received, Land will process it and push it out from AZGeo as an imagery service. If physical files are needed, they can be requested from Jenna.

**B. State Procurement Office and Esri Master Purchase Agreement**

Ryan Johnson shared that the ESRI master purchase agreement is a statewide contract and up for renewal. Many state agencies, but also local governments use this contract for purchasing services and software through a co-op agreement. The State Procurement Office (SPO) is exploring options for the contract. Originally it was a sole source contract, but SPO does not want to do that. It would be helpful if anyone who uses this contract currently would get together to discuss what would be wanted in the next contract with ESRI or whomever and then we can share needs with SPO to help them. SPO recently had a meeting which did not have a lot of people attending and they asked for feedback on this. Ryan volunteered at that meeting to bring this as an item to the council and elsewhere for broader outreach. The timing is important as the contract expires in July of this year and no extension is in place. Jenna added that the MPA is the vehicle for set pricing which typically sees about a 15% – 20% discount for services. Jenna pointed out the importance of those utilizing the MPA need to share with SPO their needs, the specific requirements, and budget restraints. A separate meeting will be held for further discussion with about 20 – 30 organizations using the MPA in addition to state agencies. That meeting would also be designed to not include SPO or vendors to spur open discussion. Eric asked what the plan or repercussions would be if this is not completed, and an extension is not put in place. Ryan shared that as it stands with the contract expiring in July, any discussions about doing a new RFP or

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contract take a lot of time. If it were to expire, state agencies would not be able to purchase maintenance or anything. Ryan doubts it would get to that point, but it is a concern. Eric also asked if a pro/con sheet has been put together with a list of directions and outcomes? Ryan shared that this process has been started and would be the kind of information that SPO would need. Getting those requirements and what stakeholders like about the current contract. Another SPO meeting is set up for the 18<sup>th</sup> where feedback can be shared directly back to SPO. The separate meeting will be before that to gather feedback ahead of time.

**C. Strategic & Business Direction Document**

Eric announced that AGIC leadership has produced the Strategic and Business Direction one page document and it has gone out. This is an annually created document and focuses on higher level details on AGIC and its objectives. It can be used as a tool to brief executives and others about AGIC and the geospatial community in Arizona. The three pillars highlighted focus on collaboration, which was established as a primary objective in the annual leadership retreat. Those three pillars are focus on data resources / data management / information exchange, collaboration to ensure AZGeo growth, and advance collaboration. A motion to approve the 2022 Strategic & Business Direction Document was made by Steve Whitney and seconded by James Meyer. Discussion included that these priorities are what were provided to all the committee and workgroup chairs to incorporate them into the work plans in one way or another. This ensures that we are headed in the direction that the community wants, which was established in February. A vote was held, and the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

**D. NSGIC Update**

Jenna updated the council on NSGIC activities. A new Executive Director was selected; John Jordan has a lot of experience with association management and is just in his first couple of weeks. The NSGIC board has a retreat scheduled next week to get John up to speed and give him action items for the next two years. USDOT requested quarterly submissions to the National Address Database (NAD) and moved the timeline up. Arizona submitted in April and received some feedback. Those interested in the validation side, Eric, Jenna and some others have access to those reports. Eric added that this is a second cross validation approach, using the NAD in parallel with 1 Spatial for next gen 911. Jenna also shared that Google is ingesting the NAD and has received Arizona's addresses. There was a request from USDOT for a white paper on benefits of participating in NAD to provide states not involved with incentive taking points. Arizona was asked to contribute to the white paper, and it is almost done, and should be approved by Friday. Link to document available in slide deck. The document was a collective effort of the experts in Arizona, like Eric Shreve, Steve Whitney, and Jim Meyer. Jenna also shared that NSGIC has developed a strategic planning playbook. Patrick Whiteford and Jenna have been participating in the document creation. It will give guidance on how to set strategic goals, how to set tactical goals and how to measure them. Arizona is a use case study in the playbook as well as being major contributors of content; the playbook will be

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released at the annual meeting in September. Jenna shared that there is a new Parcel and Land Records Committee to discuss the creation of a national parcel database and the benefits. Jenna announced that there is a new data set from BIA, the Land Area Representation Data, which is meant to represent tribal boundaries, claiming authoritative status. They have been working with census, who is the authoritative provide for most boundaries, but have not been consulting with tribes as prescribed in federal statutes and in the Geospatial Data Act. The data set was constructed from old tabular data and without consultation, there are no guarantees the boundaries are correct. NSGIC has been working with the National Tribal GIS Support Center, which represents some of the tribes, not all, but trying to reach a broad audience to try to communicate to the feds that they need to follow the law. A link to the data is in the slide deck.

Jenna shared an update about Census differential privacy. NSGIC held a meeting with one of the top people in the group that implements the algorithm of differential privacy, attempting to get guidance for states and local entities on how to use the data. Only the data products related to re-districting have been released, and the next set of data products will be the demographic data, but there has been a one-year delay to the spring because of the difficulties dealing with the data. The objective was to get guidance because the data that has been released is not accurate at the block level and could be misleading in what they advised is that the block level data should be aggregated to different geography, which is confusing. The state demographer is working with his technical team to issue some steps to work with the data, but most of the data that we use is not released yet. One main item that is a concern is that in areas with small populations, there is a huge skew in the data. The Census did point out that they want to rely on the states to be in touch with the locals to understand the use cases and possibly mitigate problems with the data products. Brian Bond asked if the Census block level data is the American Community Survey (ACS). Jenna clarified that the demographic data for the ACS is separate but will have differential privacy applied to it.

Jenna shared that the NSGIC annual conference is set for September 19-23 in Portland, OR. There was discussion about travel accommodations and there was no mention of any virtual options at this time. Eric shared that he is in the process of getting approval. Jenna reminded the council of past events where AGIC leadership asked their originations to pay half. Also, other than the AGIC chair and vice-chair, as NSGIC members, the council can attend at a discounted rate. Kevin shared that his budget was approved, and his agency would contribute about \$1000, so some AGIC financial assistance would be required for flights and registration. Eric shared that his agency, once approved, would have 100% covered. Shea also contributed that her agency would cover 100% as well.

**VI. AGIC Symposium Update**

Steve Whitney presented on the 2022 Symposium. He updated on the planning progress, including the conference website being up and running. Items open for registration include the conference itself, abstracts for presentations, the t-shirt design contest, the maps & aps contest and conference sponsorship. The Tony Gonzales Scholarship application is coming soon. A detailed agenda should be out in June, but

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only one computer lab will be utilized. It is no longer feasible for the previous vendor to provide the hardware necessary. Pima County will still have one lab set up on-site. Some options are being explored, such as a bring your own device type environment. The event management software Cvent is in the second year of a two-year commitment, so a decision to continue using them will be coming. Potential options for next year should be available for the August Council meeting. The cost for Cvent has gone up from \$13,000 per year to \$15,000. Jenna added that the longer the commitment is, the lower the price point becomes, so a decision on length of contract impacts pricing. Further discussions included challenges with supplying hands-on workshop hardware.

**VII. Items from the Chair Revisited:**

**NSGIC Update Continued**

Returning to the discussion about travel cost reimbursement needs for AGIC to send AGIC officers to the NSGIC Annual Conference: Jenna reiterated that Eric's agency would pay 100% and with flights and registration for Kevin, there should be room budget wise to support sending the past-chair. Shea shared that she is planning on going, and her agency will pay 100% as well.

A motion to approve an expenditure for Kevin Blake's flights and registration to the NSGIC annual conference was made by Lucas Murray and seconded by Steve Whitney. There was no further discussion, a vote was held, and the motion passed unanimously with Kevin Blake abstaining.

**VIII. Committee / Work Group Report Highlights**

Kevin Blake updated on the Committee and Work Group activities. He shared that Admin and Legal has been working on updating the Member Manual and the AGIC annual report. This is very helpful for members to review requirements and standards to facilitate interagency coordination. Kevin continued with Data Committee; AZDEMA created a story map for statewide evacuation planning and support for communities, fire departments, and police. He also mentioned the Spring Symposium coming soon in Prescott. The Outreach Committee held Professional Networking Socials in multiple cities last month with great success; more will be coming quarterly. Kevin reported that the AZGeo Advisory Committee held the first of two User Group meetings with 69 attendees in the first session. The 911 Committee has been working on collaboration with local organizations to leverage AZGeo for statewide inclusion by the end of 2023. Also, the Mohave County sheriff's office will be switching over to Next Generation 911 before July. The committee is also looking for a name change to be the Public Safety Committee. Kevin also shared the Conference Committee has been covered. Eric added that by the next Council meeting in August, four counties will have cut over to full geospatial routing for Next Generation 911.

**IX. Committee / Work Group Action Items**

Kevin Blake explained action was needed to allow committees and workgroups to focus on implementing their identified goals and facilitate meeting the Council Strategic and Business Direction. A motion to approve the 2022-23 work plans as submitted was made by Eric Shreve and seconded by Jay Corum. There was no discussion, a vote was held, and the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions. Kevin explained that action was needed for the 911 committee to address additional

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areas of interest that would serve the community under the umbrella of public safety. A motion to change the AGIC 911 Committee to the AGIC Public Safety committee was made by Jenna Leveille and seconded by James Meyer. Discussion included Eric sharing observations about the relationship between local and state governments in regard to public safety and that there are significant collaborative efforts on the horizon. Another comment was about reaching out to the criminal justice commission for representation. Jeff Wolkove shared that the criminal justice commission has a mandate to create a database of criminal justice data statewide. There was no further discussion, a vote was held, and the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

**X. AGIC Committee/Work Group Accomplishments 2021 Presentation**

Jenna Leveille presented on the accomplishments of the Committees and Workgroups. She shared impressive attendance numbers during training opportunities and events, like the Leadership Workshop & Survey, the AGIC Education & Training Symposium, the Arizona FHWA UAS Workshop, the Lidar Spring Symposium, the Natural Resources Presentation Series, the Natural Resources Spring Forest Health & Protection Presentation Series, the Winter Hydrology & Drought in the SW Presentation Series, the UAS Fly-in, and four free Esri Hands-on Training sessions. The presentation shared how AZGeo is being leveraged with Hub Sites, Story Maps, Surveys, the Job Board, used for GIS Day Trivia, project collaboration, and Social Media Engagement. Jenna shared the 911 Committee's accomplishments like the NG911 data validation and submission tool integration into AZGeo, the monthly aggregation of statewide datasets for addresses, street centerlines and emergency service boundaries to support NG911 implementation and government agency business needs, regular address submissions to the National Address Database, Public safety community support, and NG911 technical mentorship. They also added a Hub Site on AZGeo. Jenna shared that the AZGeo Advisory committee created an AZGeo Google group to provide a forum for feedback, challenges or how the tool is being used. A user survey was sent out also to garner additional feedback on wanted enhancements and challenges. Jenna shared how the Admin & Legal committee created a couple of subgroups to help accomplish tasks like updating the AGIC Manual, helping with the Council roster and recruitment, maintaining Social Media Guidance & Guidelines, Budget and participation tracking, Organizational Chart maintenance, and Council updates on the AGIC website. Jenna shared that the Data Committee, with about six workgroups under it, is a very large and very busy committee. Some large accomplishments were made this last year, including technical presentations and events that were held, and the progress on 3DEP coordination for statewide LiDAR. Workgroup Hub Sites were also created for UAS, Lidar, and Natural Resources. The NHD Pilot Program is working to improve the NHD with attributes and linework that support a broader base of business needs. The Protected Areas Database update is of particular interest and the community responded to a survey positively that the PAD is of value, so maintaining it when there is no stewardship is a huge accomplishment. Other areas of interest were the PLSS Best Practice Workflow and the State Plane Coordinate System Community poll and Zone Submission, and UAS Best Practices that continue to be compiled. The Outreach Committee supports all the other groups through flyer development, social media management and posts, the AGIC Jobs Board, and a highly requested YouTube Channel. The committee also launched a Mentor Program with 22 pairs of mentors and

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mentees. AGIC participates as leaders in the AGO Student Competition, organized through outreach. The website would not be current without outreach, and subgroups keep it updated. They are working on executive outreach and providing a template to help executives understand the impact we're having on communities. Jenna also shared that the Conference Committee held a very successful virtual conference with over 300 attendees. That included 79 first time attendees from an international interest, with people attending in the US & Canada, 19 US states, including 12 Arizona Counties. They earned \$13K in revenue using the new Conference Platform – Cvent. The symposium included 42 presentation and technical sessions, on a wide variety of topics put on by 81 presenters. Of course, a highlight of the event are the Awards, Maps & Apps, Trivia, and Socials.

**XI. Comments / Requests for Topics in future meetings**

Eric shared that the next council meeting is August 4, 2022, at 10am with a potential for a hybrid solution. Eric asked for any comments or requests for discussion items. Brian Bond requested that the AGIC annual report creation be a future agenda item. Jenna added that the goal was for such document to be created by the end of the year.

**XII. Call to the public**

Eric Shreve issued a call to the public, if there was anyone who registered to address the council and received no response.

**XIII. Adjourn**

Without objection, Eric adjourned the meeting at 11:55am.